

BEST SPORTING PAGE IN NEW YORK

THREE OF A KIND

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McGraw Says He Never Thought Seriously of Quitting Baseball

Giants' Leader Declares Reports That Have Recently Appeared in Print to Effect He'd Soon Retire From Game Originated From Remarks He Made When He Had Been Sore, Overheard by Some One Who Took Him Seriously.

By John J. McGraw.

Manager of the New York Giants.

A RE you going to quit baseball

in a couple of years, Mac?"

A friend of mine asked me the

other day after reading the reports

that I would no longer manage the

Giants after my present contract with

the club expired.

"There have been times," I told him,

"when I felt like I wanted to quit, but

the feeling didn't last long."

Probably these reports have origi-

nated from remarks I have made

when I have been sore, overheard by

some one who took me seriously.

"I wouldn't care if I never saw a

ball field again," I declared one day

in the club house recently after the

boys had blown a game in extra in-

nings. "When I get through with this

contract, I am going to take a rest."

But I have never thought seriously

of quitting, until I am no longer fit

to hold a job. Of course, I don't think

I would do it all as a bench manager

because I am too nervous and restless

during a hot battle. I would have to

break out there on the field when an

umpire called a close one against me

or when one of my players pulled a

bone, and you can't do that unless

you wear the "spangles."

Several times I have wanted to take

a financial interest in different clubs

and, in fact, was figuring on a deal

with Capt. Huston before he bought

the Yankees to purchase the Cubs.

This was two or three years ago, and

the New York management would not

release me from my contract. I love

the game, and I love the Giants, and

I want to stick to both.

But managing a ball club is hard

work, and it is discouraging some-

times, especially when you see a ma-

chine that has won championships for

you beginning to fade. The hardest

job a manager does is to turn loose

the old timers and bring in new ones

committed to the same old game.

One item of gossip is that George

Stallings and Johnny Evers are reav-

ing war over the umpires in spite of

all their good resolutions of the early

season. The Boston team is all nervous

about the umpires this season. Al-

though I have laid off them pretty

well. However, where there is so

much kicking all around the circuit

there must be some reason. You can't

have a whole lot of smoke without

some fire.

Now as to the Giants' chances in

this race. A baseball team can be

no better than it considers itself. Us-

ually it can measure up pretty closely

to its personal estimate. For that

very reason I think my club, as now

constituted, has a very good chance

for this season's National League

pennant.

My team is a good one. And it

realizes the fact. It is stronger than

any other club in our league. I think

it is 10 per cent. stronger than any

rival. That we will win many more

games than any one else I have no

doubt. I mean, of course, more games

from now until the end of the sea-

son. But we might do all of that

and still fall far short of the pennant.

At this stage of the race in 1914 the

Boston Braves were further behind

my Giants than my club now is be-

hind the pacesetter Dodgers. By

Labor Day George Stallings' club

had cut down all of our advantage

and had tied us for first place.

George's team that year could not be-

gin to class with the aggregation I

now have. He was able to make his

great gain because his club, such as

it was, was far superior to anything

else in the National League. Our

three-time pennant winner was fading

fast. Our pitching staff was worn

out, and our batting was not what it

was, was about the only one that

could put up a front against the

Stallings. It was an easy matter for

Stallings with James Dugan, and

Tyler standing up bravely under a

load of overwork to cut down our

early advantage.

My team at last seems imbued with

real pennant ambition. That will go

a long way. We have enough games

left with Brooklyn to make matters

difficult for the Giants only contin-

ue to play their best game. We

may reasonably expect some assist-

ance from the second division clubs

of the West. So far New York has

proven itself by long odds the best

club of the field. The four most

prominent contenders are starting on

their last long road journey. I figure

this trip an advantage to us.

The Giants should be out where

Brooklyn is. We would have been

but for some mysterious influence

that destroyed the players' confidence

on their own grounds. This jinx was

removed with the appearance of Hor-

zog. No club in the Tanager circuit has

shown to better advantage at home

than have the Giants during their last

stand at the Polo Grounds. This too,

in spite of the fact that my club of

late has not hit so furiously as it did

earlier in the year.

Fighting the finest third

baseman in the game. He makes my

club the best balanced one in either

league. His spirit and aggressiveness

spur all the other players on to

twice their earlier vim. For that rea-

son I believe that Brooklyn, Boston

and Philadelphia henceforth will find

a far different proposition in the

Giants.

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Fistic News and Gossip

By John Pollock.

While the match between Jack Dillon

and Jim Coffey, the Irish heavyweight,

is clinched for Labor Day afternoon,

it is not definitely settled where the

men will battle as Harry Pollock, man-

ager of the Washington Park Sport-

ing Club, and John Weissmuller, of the

Broadway Sporting Club, both claim

they are entitled to stage it. Pollock's

argument is that Dillon promised him

he would box Coffey and he says that

Billy Gibson signed up with him for

Coffey to box Dillon at Washington

Park. Weissmuller says he has Dillon's

signature to articles of agreement and

that Dillon claims he will box for him

or the match will fall through. It looks

as if the State Athletic Commission

will be asked to straighten out the

tangle.

The contest between Betting Lerinaky

and George "Knockout" Brown of Chicago

will be fought at Carnegie Hall, New

York, on Monday night. The two men

have been engaged by John Weissmuller

to box the winner of the Freddie White

White bout at Ebbets Field in Brooklyn

this week in September. Kid McFarland

has been engaged to referee the Leonard

Leonard match.

Al McCoy, the Brooklyn fighter, who still

claims the middleweight title, is going to

Australia. He has been signed up for

a few years. There will come together in the

main go of ten rounds at the Arrows Sport-

ing Club on West Forty-fourth Street to-mor-

row night. In the semi-final Jimmy Mar-

shall of Ridgewood boxes Betting Lerinaky.

"Chick" Simler, the Brooklyn welterweight,

and Kid Burns, the west side fighter, will

have a ten-round scrap at the Pioneer Sport-

ing Club on West Forty-fourth Street to-mor-

row night. Simler has been betting in good

form for a few months, and Burns will have

to beat him. Bobby Brown and Joe

Lynch will also battle for ten rounds.

While Becher, the main little man fight-

ing, and Danny Lewis of Newark, N. J., have

been signed up by Jake Carey, the fight promoter

of Rochester, N. Y., to meet in a ten-round

scrap at the Arrows Sport Club on Mon-

day evening, Aug. 21. Becher has had a good

rest and ought to put up a great fight.

Jimmy Coffey, the Mohawk Indian, who will

meet Jack Dillon at Madison Square Garden

next week, will make his first appearance at Rock-

away Beach to-morrow night in a ten-round

scrap against Walter Mohr, the Brooklyn welterweight.

Murray Defeats Jap Tennis Star

R. Lindley Murray defeated but did

not outplay Ichiji Kumagae, the

Japanese lawn tennis champion and

holder of the New York State title, in

the final round of the invitation

tournament of the Crescent Athletic

Club at Bay Ridge yesterday after-

noon. Only by the most desperate

playing did Murray check the little

son of Nippon and beat him in five

straight sets with the scores at 6-4,

6-2, 6-3, 6-2, 6-1.

In the first set and again in the

third, it was Murray's wonderful re-

cuperative powers that enabled him

to come from behind and win when

he seemed all but defeated. In each

of these sets the Japanese player had

an advantage and needed only one

game to win. But Murray, at the last

ditch, forced him back, and by tak-

ing three games in a row captured

the set.

Invitation Tennis

TOURNAMENT OPENS TO-DAY.

NEWPORT, R. I., Aug. 14.—Sixty-

four players, including seven of the

first ten in the national ranking list,

are entered for the second invitation

tournament, which will open to-day on

the Casino courts.

R. Norris Williams 24, who won the

competition for the Casino Cup last

year, will be one of the contestants for

another leg of the trophy, while others

entered are William M. Johnston, the

national champion; Maurice E. Mc-

Laughlin and William J. Clothier, both

former champions; R. Lindley Murray,

Nat. W. Niles, W. M. Hall and the

Japanese pair, I. Kumagae and H. Mi-

kani.

Devaney and Plant Proved Stars

Mike Devaney of the Millrose

Athletic Association and Jim Plant

of the Long Island A. C. were the

outstanding figures at the Brooklyn

Athletic Association games at the

Parkway Driving Club.

Devaney won a slashing half-mile

race from scratch in the good time of

1 minute 58 seconds, while Plant

logged an easy victory in the special

two-mile run in 9 minutes 25 sec-

onds.

Campfire's victory was particularly

satisfying to his painstaking trainer,

Tom Healey, and his owner, R. T.

Wilson. Outside of being the first

Saratoga Special to be recorded to the

credit of the track's President, it

meant the installation of Olambala,

the colt's sire, among the elite of the

horse world. Trainer Healey has al-

ways insisted that Olambala was the

best horse he ever trained and words

cannot express his pleasure at seeing

the son of this worthy sire shine in

his historic Special. That owner

Wilson was more than anxious to win

the stake and the \$1,000 gold cup

which went with it was shown in

the paddock while Campfire was be-

ing made ready for the race. As little

Johnny McGartney approached the

maddling inclosure Mr. Wilson ap-

proached the lad and, grasping his

hand, said: "Johnny, if you ever tried

hard to win a race for me, do it to-

day on Campfire."

McGartney grinned and replied:

"I'll do my best."

The victory of the Finn, the long

shot in the Champlain Handicap,

was more or less due to accident. At

the crucial stage of the race, in the

last eighth of a mile, Notter was in

front on the Finn, waiting for a

bit from the rail to pit his finishing

ranged alongside of him. Notter, evi-

dently regarding the Belmont colt as

his only real contender, pulled out

a bit from the rail to pit his finishing

powers against those of McGartney

on Stromboli for that final drive

to the wire. Up to this stage of the

race with no chance of getting to the

front unless he came to the outside

of the other two. This move would

have been costly, so Schuttlinger an-

nounced on the Finn, waiting for a

bit from the rail to pit his finishing

powers against those of McGartney

on Stromboli for that final drive

to the wire. Up to this stage of the

race with no chance of getting to the

front unless he came to the outside